



Work-Product

## UNITED STATES AIR FORCE BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

### RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2022-00342

Work-Product

COUNSEL: NONE

HEARING REQUESTED: NO

### APPLICANT'S REQUEST

To be awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal (RVCM).

### APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS

He spent 11 months and 25 days abroad and should be awarded the RVCM. In support of his request, the applicant provides copies of Permanent Change of Station Orders that reflect his assignment to the Republic of Vietnam.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

### STATEMENT OF FACTS

The applicant is a former Air Force staff sergeant (E-5) who entered the Regular Air Force on 24 Mar 69.

On 14 Feb 72, according to AF Form 7, *Airman Military Record*, the applicant was assigned to the 377 CAMS, Tan Son Nhut AB, RVN (PACAF).

According to AF Form 910, *TSgt, SSgt and Sgt Performance Report*, the applicant was assigned to 377 CAMS, Tan Son Nhut, RVN (PACAF), with a period of report and supervision from 31 Oct 71 to 24 Jul 72.

According to AF Form 910, the applicant was assigned to 377 FMS, Tan Son Nhut AB, RVN (PACAF), with a period of report and supervision from 25 Jul 72 to 29 Nov 72.

On 25 Dec 72, according to AF Form 899, *Request and Authorization for Permanent Change of Station*, dated 5 Dec 72, the applicant was relieved from assignment to 377 FMS, (PACAF), and reassigned to 374 CSG, (PACAF).

On 8 Feb 73, according to DD Form 214, *Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer or Discharge*, the applicant was released from active-duty and transferred to the Air Force Reserve. Block 24, *Decorations, Medals, Badges, Commendations, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized* reflects the National Defense Service Medal, Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon, Vietnam Service Medal and the Air Force Good Conduct Medal. He was credited with 11 months and 25 days of Foreign and/or Sea Service.

According to a memorandum from AFPC/DP3AM (Assignments), dated 2 Apr 24, they were able to verify and confirm the applicant's boots on ground Foreign Service time in the Republic of

Controlled by: SAF/MRB

Work-Product

Limited Dissemination Control: N/A

POC: [SAF.MRBC.Workflow@us.af.mil](mailto:SAF.MRBC.Workflow@us.af.mil)

AFBCMR Docket Number BC-2022-00342

Work-Product

Vietnam, but unfortunately, they were unable to determine the inclusive dates of the Foreign Service. The amount of Foreign Service time reflected on the applicant's DD Form 214 is correct.

For more information, see the excerpt of the applicant's record at Exhibit B and the advisory at Exhibit C.

## **APPLICABLE AUTHORITY/GUIDANCE**

According to DAFMAN 36-2806, *Military Awards: Criteria and Procedures*, paragraph, A11.9.5. Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal. The SECDEF approved acceptance and wear of The RVCM was awarded to members of the U.S. Armed Forces who between 1 Mar 61 and 28 Mar 73 served for 6 months in South Vietnam during the above dates or served outside the geographical limits of South Vietnam and contributed combat support to the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces for an aggregate of six months. Only members of the U.S. Armed Forces who meet the criteria established for the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (Vietnam) or the Vietnam Service Medal during the period of service required are considered to have contributed direct combat support to the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces.

## **AIR FORCE EVALUATION**

AFPC/DP3SP (Recognitions) recommends denying the application. At the time of their review, there was no official military personnel record available for verification of length of service for award of the Vietnam Service Medal, they were unable to verify an aggregate of six months for award of the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

The complete advisory opinion is at Exhibit C.

## **APPLICANT'S REVIEW OF AIR FORCE EVALUATION**

The Board sent a copy of the advisory opinion to the applicant on 18 Jun 24 for comment (Exhibit D) but has received no response.

## **FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION**

1. The application was not timely filed, but it is in the interest of justice to excuse the delay.
2. The applicant exhausted all available non-judicial relief before applying to the Board.
3. After reviewing all Exhibits, the Board concludes the applicant is the victim of an error or injustice. While the Board notes the recommendation of AFPC/DP3SP against correcting the record, the Board finds a preponderance of the evidence substantiates the applicant's contentions. Specifically, the Board notes the applicant's AF Forms 910s, *TSgt, SSgt and Sgt Performance Reports* for the periods 31 Oct 71 to 24 Jul 72 and 25 Jul 72 to 29 Nov 72; to include AF Form 899, *Request and Authorization for Permanent Change of Station* reflect he was physically present in Vietnam and met the requirements for award of the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal. Therefore, the Board recommends correcting the applicant's records as indicated below.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

The pertinent military records of the Department of the Air Force relating to APPLICANT be corrected to show DD Form 214, *Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer or Discharge*, issued in conjunction with his 8 Feb 73 separation, be amended in Block 24

(Decorations, Medals, Badges, Commendations, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized) to include the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

## CERTIFICATION

The following quorum of the Board, as defined in Department of the Air Force Instruction (DAFI) 36-2603, *Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records (AFBCMR)*, paragraph 2.1, considered Docket Number BC-2022-00342 in Executive Session on 24 Sep 24:

Work-Product Panel Chair

Work-Product Panel Member

Work-Product, Panel Member

All members voted to correct the record. The panel considered the following:

Exhibit A: Application, DD Form 149, w/atchs, dated 22 Oct 21.

Exhibit B: Documentary evidence, including relevant excerpts from official records.

Exhibit C: Advisory opinion, AFPC/DP3SP, dated 18 Sep 23.

Exhibit D: Notification of advisory, SAF/MRBC to applicant, dated 18 Jun 24.

Taken together with all Exhibits, this document constitutes the true and complete Record of Proceedings, as required by DAFI 36-2603, paragraph 4.12.9.

4/1/2025

Work-Product

Work-Product

Board Operations Manager, AFBCMR

Work-Product